

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

FOR NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN COUNTIES

July 2003



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development
Local Workforce Planning Section

Labor force expansion outpaces job growth in June

Recent graduates, students seeking summer work, and seasonal workers in fields such as construction and agriculture helped **Wisconsin** gain 62,000 employed residents and 25,500 unemployed residents in June. May-to-June labor force growth usually outstrips job growth, so this June's unemployment rate increase is consistent with typical patterns.

Uniquely among North Central counties, **Adams County** reported an unemployment rate lower than typical for June, and it has done so for ten of the last twelve months. Information, professional, business & other services was the only sector to post fewer jobs this June than last. Construction and manufacturing seemed to lead the private-sector growth.

The unemployment rate in **Forest County** was further above its typical level than it has been at any point in the last 12 months. May-to-June gains in con-

struction, manufacturing, leisure & hospitality and information, professional, business & other services were not enough to bring those sectors up to June 2002 levels.

Langlade County saw its unemployment rate climb as high above typical levels as it has been at any point in the last year. Leisure & hospitality is the only industry that generated significant job growth in both May-to-June comparisons and June 2002-to-June 2003 comparisons. The loss of information, professional, business & other services jobs is somewhat unusual for June.

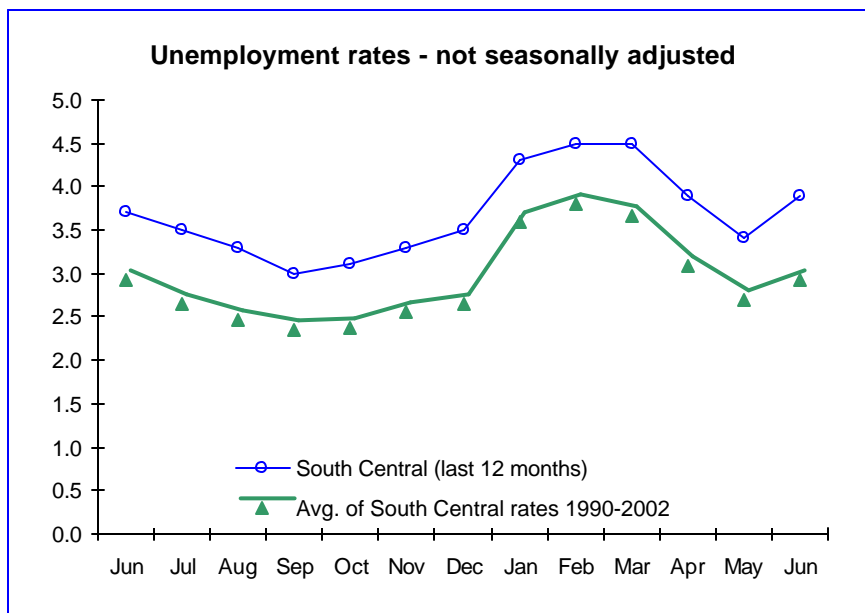
Falling in a month when it usually rises, **Lincoln County's** unemployment was closer to typical levels than it has been during any month of the last twelve. For two months, manufacturing added jobs, but the sector remains well below last June's level. Over-the-month job growth was spread across all sectors, while over-the-year job growth concentrated in leisure & hospitality.

For the second month in a row, **Marathon County** unemployment rates were closer to their typical levels than they have been for most of the past year. Job growth concentrating in manufacturing was rather unique for a North Central county. From its May 2002 peak of 4,500 jobs, the financial activities sector has lost 300 jobs.

After falling sharply for four months, the gap between current and typical unemployment rates in **Oneida County** increased again in June, mostly due to seasonal increases in the labor force. The trade sector and infor-

mation, professional, business & other services posted growth from May to June, and both sat below June 2002 levels. Roughly half of the all-industries net job growth in June came from leisure & hospitality. Over-the-year comparisons suggest that job growth was even more concentrated.

Since December, **Vilas County** has posted unemployment rates roughly



1.5 percent to 2 percent higher than normal. From June to December, the rate was much closer to normal (less than half a percent above). Although last September's drop in information, professional, business & other services was sharper, the December drop seems more atypical. The May-to-June jump in leisure & hospitality was far greater than the sector's growth between June 2002 and June 2003. The one-month increase in trade sector jobs masks the fact that this spring showed almost the same trade employment as last spring while this summer showed less pickup in trade jobs than last summer.

In June, **Wood County** was closer to its typical unemployment rate than it had been in any month of the last twelve. Manufacturing gained jobs in June, but not enough to make up for losses each month from July 2002 to February 2003. Education & health services and leisure & hospitality remain among top job-producing sectors in terms of jobs added since June 2002.

Employment by industry estimates - not seasonally adjusted

	Wisconsin			Adams			Forest			Langlade			Lincoln			
	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	
Total jobs, all indstries*	2,828,900	30,800	5,500	4,500	160	90	3,400	40	-100	50	3,700	-20	50	12,300	250	-70
Const., min'g & nat. resources	129,400	6,200	-8,200	290	20	30	100	10	-20	10	160	10	10	490	40	-10
Manufacturing	519,300	3,000	-14,500	460	20	30	340	10	-30	10	510	10	-10	3,600	70	-130
Trade (wholesale & retail)	440,200	7,800	6,500	620	0	40	340	10	10	20	690	10	20	1,790	30	-40
Transport, Wrhsing, Utilities	106,900	800	1,900	150	0	0	180	0	0	0	190	-10	0	360	10	-50
Financial activities	158,700	2,400	3,900	90	0	0	100	10	10	0	190	10	0	770	10	10
Education & health services	361,200	-2,000	2,200	460	0	0	340	-10	10	0	310	0	50	950	0	10
Leisure & hospitality	256,400	10,600	-500	820	90	20	200	10	-60	20	280	20	40	1,220	40	100
Info, prof, bus. & other srvc	438,500	7,600	9,200	350	20	-90	130	10	-60	0	280	-40	0	1,000	10	10
Government	418,300	-5,600	5,000	1,260	0	50	1,630	-10	40	-60	1,130	-20	-60	2,200	60	30
Civilian Labor Force**	3,164,000	87,500	79,700	9,300	450	350	5,100	210	70	420	10,400	280	420	15,300	380	70
Employed	2,982,400	62,000	68,000	9,000	430	340	4,700	130	-20	190	9,500	140	190	14,300	410	190
Unemployed	181,600	25,500	11,700	390	20	10	420	80	90	230	920	140	230	910	-30	-120
Unemployment rate (%)	5.7	0.6	0.2	4.2	0.1	0.0	8.2	1.2	1.6	2.0	8.9	1.2	2.0	6.0	-0.3	-0.8
	Marathon			Oneida			Portage			Vilas			Wood			
	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	Jun 2003	1-month change	1-year change	
Total jobs, all indstries*	71,400	600	800	19,800	830	220	32,700	-610	-150	-120	9,400	790	-120	44,700	190	700
Const., min'g & nat. resources	3,000	100	-100	1,520	100	50	1,090	70	-100	0	980	60	0	1,690	110	-90
Manufacturing	18,900	500	600	1,430	40	-280	5,500	90	-340	10	410	10	-90	7,900	210	-420
Trade (wholesale & retail)	14,400	100	0	4,200	210	-80	4,300	-40	-450	-110	1,480	110	-110	6,200	0	-150
Transport, Wrhsing, Utilities	2,800	-100	-100	410	-20	-10	1,830	-20	10	-10	100	-10	-10	3,300	-30	120
Financial activities	4,200	-100	-300	560	20	20	4,000	40	50	30	320	10	30	1,150	20	60
Education & health services	6,600	0	0	3,100	30	30	3,100	-10	130	40	750	30	40	11,100	70	620
Leisure & hospitality	5,300	100	200	3,400	420	620	4,100	80	540	110	2,400	470	110	3,000	90	260
Info, prof, bus. & other srvc	8,200	200	100	2,500	100	-120	3,700	40	20	-330	400	20	-330	5,000	100	130
Government	8,000	-200	400	2,700	-60	-10	5,200	-860	-10	240	2,600	90	240	5,200	-370	170
Civilian Labor Force**	79,100	2,000	2,200	24,200	1,620	680	38,900	90	580	510	12,900	750	510	42,200	890	1,280
Employed	75,600	1,570	2,200	23,000	1,480	610	36,700	-230	420	320	12,200	790	320	39,800	520	1,250
Unemployed	3,500	460	-10	1,230	150	70	2,200	320	160	190	670	-40	190	2,500	370	20
Unemployment rate (%)	4.5	0.5	-0.1	5.1	0.3	0.2	5.6	0.8	0.3	1.3	5.2	-0.6	1.3	5.9	0.8	-0.1

*Includes jobs with employers in area. ** Includes labor force participants residing in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary.
Numbers 2,000 and greater are rounded to nearest 100. Numbers under 2,000 are rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding.